

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification as requested by the Office to include the address of the depository. Applicants have also amended claim 38, which incorporates the amendments discussed during the telephonic conversations between the Examiner and the undersigned during the week of February 9, 2009 to February 13, 2009. Claims 51 to 64 have been canceled without prejudice to their presentation in another application.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 5, 7, 10, 12, 15, and 38-50 will be pending.

Statement Regarding Availability of Deposits

Applicants hereby state that the strains referred the pending claims and described in the specification, including strains Pf201, Pf2012, Pf2013, Pf20118, Pf20137, Pf20118algIJA, Pf20118algFA, Pf20118AlgLH203R and Pf201MC have been deposited with The National Collections of Industrial Food and Marine Bacteria Ltd (Ferguson Building, Craibstone Estate, Bucksburn, Aberdeen. AB21 9YA, Scotland) with accession numbers 41137, 41138, 41139, 41140, 41141, 41142, 41143, 41144 and 41145, under the terms of the Budapest Treaty, as described in the present application, and will be irrevocably and without restriction available upon granting of the patent for the above-identified application.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that the claims be allowed at this time. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees and credit of any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0436.

Respectfully Submitted,

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